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Res Gestae

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THE LAWYERS CLUB OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN LAW SCHOOL

VOL. 15

OCTOBER 18, 1963

NO. 8

PRE-LAW ADVISORS MEET TO DISCUSS PREPARATION OF UNDERGRADUATES:

Would-be lawyers and their undergraduate preparation was the subject of the Conference of Pre-Law Advisors which met at the law school yesterday and today. The conference drew not only many undergraduate counselors and deans, but also officials from many of the other top law schools throughout the country.

The meeting was sponsored by the pre-legal studies office of the University's College of Literature, Science and the Arts, a leader in the field of pre-legal education counseling. The LSA program is recognized as one of the few well developed systems in the country. The conference, which met for the consideration of problems that face counselors in this field, is held in co-operation with the law school and the University's Extension Service.

Professor Lionel H. Laing, advisor of the LSA's pre-law counseling program was in charge of the conference. He said that the program's purpose is to contribute to the ultimate goal of giving future lawyers the benefit of a systematic counseling, long before they enter law school. He noted that currently, many students are forced to seek advice in a haphazard manner. It is hoped that this program will help to provide a more appropriate foundation for prospective law students.

Principal speakers at the conference were George Edwards, Detroit Police Commissioner and judge-designate for the Sixth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals, who spoke on "The Art of Advocacy"; and John A. Winterbottom, program director of the Educational Testing Service, whose topic was "The Law School Admission Test-Its Make-up and Purpose." Other features of the conference included special movies relating to pre-legal education and law school; and panel discussions. The panel discussion yesterday was entitled "Undergraduate Preparations for Law School." Mr. Laing moderated a panel consisting of Prof. Whitmore Gray; George Boucher, Grand Rapids Attorney; and Martin Dickinson, Editor-in-Chief of the Michigan Law Review. Today's panel discussed "Law School Admission Practices and Problems." The members of the panel were Lindsey Cowen, Associate Dean of the University of Virginia Law School; A. Kenneth Pye, Associate Dean of Georgetown University Law Center; and William R. Shane, Assistant Dean of the University of Pennsylvania Law School. Assistant Dean Roy F. Proffitt moderated.

U.C.C. PROGRAM UNDER WAY:

The Institute of Continuing Legal Education began its program to familiarize Michigan Attorneys with the Uniform Commercial Code this past week with study sessions in Pontiac, Grand Rapids and Detroit. In all, over a dozen cities in the state host the program between now and early next year. The timing of the program has largely been determined by the fact that the U.C.C. will become law in Michigan on January 1, 1964.

The comprehensiveness of the Code is such that it will be repealing thirteen major statutes; changing the ultimate effect of the law in numerous cases. In addition, the code covers a large area now governed essentially by case law that is, in many cases, confusing and contradictory and also will often be overruled because of the Code's effort to conform to modern principles and concepts.

The program is broken down into two courses. The first deals with secured transactions, bulk transfers, sales and warranties. The second will cover commercial paper, bank deposits and collections, letters of credit, documents of title and investment securities. Principal speaker at the programs will be Prof. Roy L. Steinheimer, a nationally-respected authority on the U.C.C. He played a major role in the enactment of the Code in Michigan and is the author of: Desk Reference to the Uniform Commercial Code and Michigan Sales Law and the Uniform Commercial Code. Also participating will be Prof. Donald B. King, of Wayne State University Law School.

LIBEL AND SLANDER: There are often a number of students who wish to devote a Saturday night to study. But the problem is: Where? Certainly the atmosphere in the Quad is not conducive to studies. Of course, many students live in apartments; but then you can't do legal research from your apartment. These problems could easily be solved by keeping the library open on Saturday nights, if only to 10:00 instead of the usual 11:00. The only library on campus that is open at this time is Rackham which is sorely inadequate to meet the demands of the campus. The same criticism holds true for Sunday night. While the "UGLI" is open for 11 or 12 hours on Sunday, our library is open for only about one third of that time. While students may accept

the "ISLI" or be able to study in their rooms on Sunday night; still, there are those who need access to the research facilities over here or who find the atmosphere better for deep concentration. Let's hope that a situation so easily remedied will be brought to a conclusion soon. While many of us may reserve Saturday night for social life, the rest of the students should be allowed to have their desires satisfied also.

If legal history were to be broken down into eras, the present might be called the era of codification. And yet, with this great movement afoot, there is one significant area of the law where there seems to be only sporadic efforts in this direction. That area is Torts. Why is there no Uniform Torts Act? Think of it, all tort law condensed into a few brief pages. No longer would students and attorneys be slaves to Mrs. Palsgraf. The "garbage dump area of torts" would be a garbage dump no longer. The social guest and the business visitor could go forward with a feeling of security. Western Union could fix clocks without a worry. People could build reservoirs and know where they stood. The Res Gestae would know how far it had to go to cause a libel suit. Many legal scholars would have more time to devote to their intensive study of movies. Support the Uniform Torts Act and end this foolishness.

- H.V. Baxendale

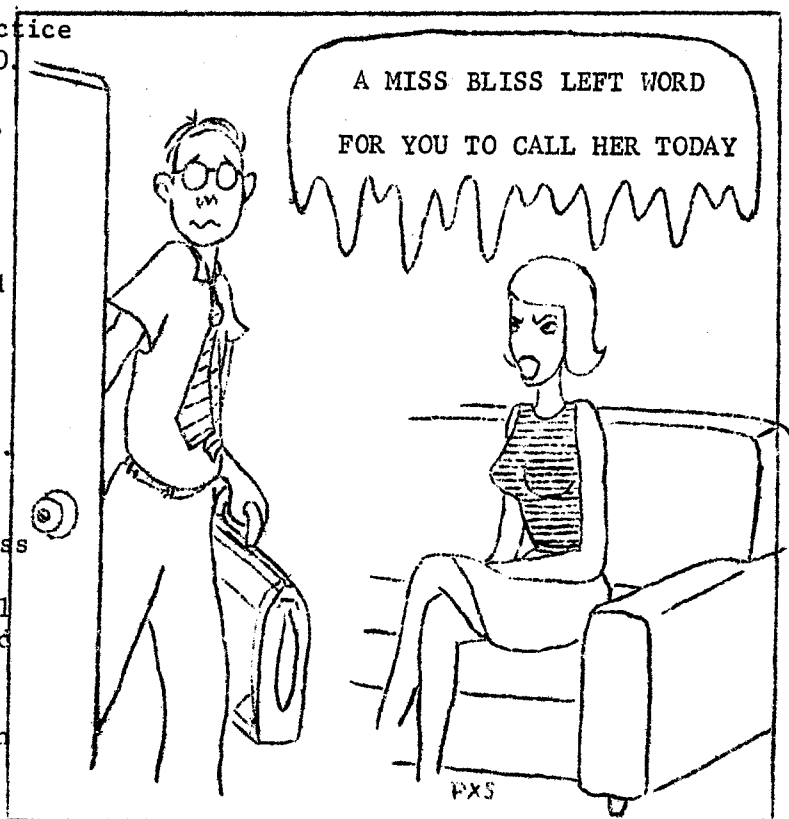
GRIDIRON PIX:

Purdue over Michigan
Minnesota over Illinois!!!!
Michigan State over Indiana
Ohio State over So. Cal.
Wisconsin over Iowa
Nebraska over Kansas State
Kansas over Oklahoma!!!!
(loyalty pick of the week)
Texas over Arkansas
Rice over SMU
LSU over Kentucky

Miami over Georgia
Notre Dame over UCLA
Princeton over Colgate
Harvard over Columbia
Yale over Cornell
Syracuse over Penn State
Georgia Tech over Auburn
Alma over Kalamazoo
St. John's over Concordia
Oroville Teachers over Arboga Tech

MISCELLANEOUS:

Don't forget the Moot Court Practice Segments; Monday at 3:30 in Room 100. The bench will be Professors Harris and George and Judge F.J. O'Brien... Campbell Competition quarter-finals began today at 3:30. Court "A" will continue to sit in the Moot Court Room with arguments tonight at 7:30 and again tomorrow at 10:00 A.M. and 1:00 P.M. Court "B" will sit next Friday and Saturday at these same respective times....The semester's second meeting of the International Law Society will be on Thurs. Oct. 24. The Speaker is Mr. David MacDonald from the Chicago firm of Baker, McKenzie & Hightower. He will discuss preparation and practice in international law; including international antitrust, which is his special field....CORRECTION: Dean John Ritchie, erroneously listed last week as president-elect of the A.B.A., is, in fact, pres.-elect of the Association of American Law Schools.



AT THE FLICKS:

State: "Mondo Cane"

Michigan: "20,000 Leagues Under the Sea"

Campus: "Carry on Regardless" and "Get on with it"

Cinema Guild: Fri: "Bell, Book and Candle"; Sat.: "Shoot the Piano Player"

QUADSVILLE QUOTES:

Anomalies in the law . . . sometimes arise from blindly following the hasty decisions of a distinguished judge. - Cowne, J.

Status is a frame of mind, encompassing a state of existence--hung on a wall of quicksand. - B.C.